

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1 – 3 and 10 – 21 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,648,044 to Hardy *et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,598,036 to Wang *et al.* In that regard, the Examiner stated that Hardy *et al.* discloses:

“then receiving a rule by the computer, the rule defining a premise and a conclusion to be drawn from the premise (col. 10, lines 12 – 20);
then generating a subroutine by the server that determines if the premise is true and, based at least in part upon the conclusion, outputting a first value if the premise is true and outputting a second value if the premise is false. (col. 11, lines 40 – 67).”

In addition, the Examiner stated that Wang *et al.* discloses:

“displaying a field for receiving a rule on a computer (col. 3, lines 29 – 41);
then transmitting the rule from the computer to a server (col. 3, lines 42 – 52);
then storing the rule on the server (col. 3, lines 7 – 14);”

Applicants have amended claim 1, the only remaining independent claim, to more clearly point out the claimed invention. Claim 1 now requires a client computer to display a field for receiving a rule that is to be input into the client computer by a user of the client computer. In addition, claim 1 requires the client computer to receive a rule that was input into the client computer by the user of the client computer.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Hardy *et al.* nor Wang *et al.* disclose a client computer displaying a field on the client computer for receiving a rule that is to be input into the client computer by a user of the client computer. Similarly, neither Hardy *et al.* nor Wang *et al.* disclose a client computer receiving a rule that was input into the client computer by the user of the client computer.

Applicants also respectfully submit that neither Hardy *et al.* nor Wang *et al.* disclose generating a function that determines if the premise of claim 1 is true. The premise that is referenced in the “generating a function” limitation of claim 1 is a very specific premise. Recall that claim 1 requires:

“receiving by the client computer a rule that was input into the client computer by the user of the client computer, the rule defining a premise and a conclusion to be drawn if the premise is true” and

“then transmitting the rule from the client computer to a server.”


Thus, “generating a function by the server that determines if the premise is true” requires a server generating a function that determines if a premise, which was defined by a rule input into a client computer by a user of the client computer and then sent from the client computer to the server, is true. In order for such a generation to occur, the function must be generated after the rule was sent from the client computer to the server. Simply executing a pre-existing function does not meet such a limitation. As a result, Hardy *et al.* does not disclose generating the claimed function.

CONCLUSION

It is submitted that the present application is presently in form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: February 24, 2006

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